

THE
DUTIFUL DAUGHTER,
O R

The TRAGICAL HISTORY of the Misfortunes and
Sufferings of the

Rt. Hon. Lady ELIZA COURTNEY VERNON

(Only Daughter of C***** VERNON,)

From the Age of Fourteen to her unfortunate
Death

Intersperc'd with the Memoirs of

Sir. Charles T*****k, Esqr.

A true Story founded on facts, shewing that Honours and
Riches in Possession of the Proud and Avaricious will
not produce Happiness.

Titles may set a Gloss upon our name,
Virtue only is the Life of Fame:
Virtue's the chiefest Beauty of the mind,
The noblest Ornaments of Human kind;
He who pays more respect to Wealth than Sense,
Wou'd worship Idols to encrease his pence.

By a Gentleman of the Middle Temple.

Printed and sold by W. BAILEY, at No. 28, Great
Tower-street, where Tradesmen's Bills are printed neat
and reasonable, and Printing in general performed.

4.

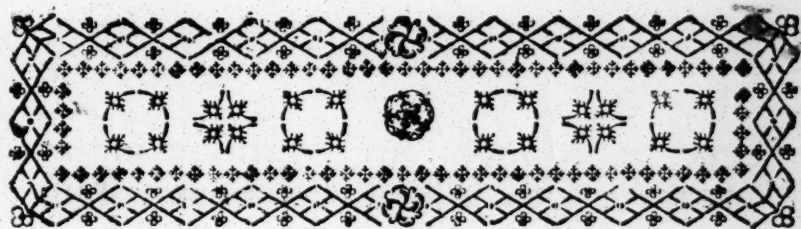


D

R



on
wa
a l
m
Sw
de
In
At
his
his



T H E
D U T I F U L D A U G H T E R,
O R

the Tragical History of the

Rt. Hon. Lady ELIZA COURTNEY V^RN^N,

 I R William T——k was a Merchant, who, from a small Fortune had raised himself, by Industry and Frugality, to be one of the greatest Men in the City. He was besides this an honest Man, and had a Heart replete with every Virtue; but coming young into Trade, and tasting the Sweets of getting Money, before he considered the reward of any other Virtue but Industry, that alone engrossed his whole Attention. He had several Children by his Wife, but only two Sons survived, his eldest and youngest; the former of
A 2 whom

whom, he brought up a gentleman, as his fortune was sufficient to enable him to do so, before his other younger son arrived to an age fit to assist him in the Compting-house. He accordingly married him to a lady of great fortune, and purchased for him an estate in the country, where he lived almost altogether.

Sir William's other son, our present Mr. T——k, was at least fifteen years younger than his brother, and by his father wholly employed in business. He was a youth of good parts, well inclined, and very industrious; slighted the town amusements, and seemed to place his chief delight in being often at his father's country house, which was but little more than four miles from London. But it soon appeared that neither the house or country had any charms for him, if a young lady, whose father lived very near Sir William, chanced to be in town; when he always found reasons plausible enough for returning to London immediately, and was sure to be seen in every public place till he met with the lady, tho' always, as he pretended, by meer chance. This behaviour did not long pass unnoticed by Sir William, who at first felt a little chagrin

grin at it, because the lady had no fortune. He struggled with his love of money some time: but good-nature and good sense at last, called in the love of a darling child, who had never offended him, together with the charms of a lady to whose excellence he was far from being blind; these, put in competition with what he began to be satisfied with, overcame his scruples, and he looked with pleasure on the little arts of his son, who endeavoured to conceal his passion by (sometimes) very thin disguises.

C——I V——n, Father to this young Lady, was on half pay, a Gentleman of an ancient Family, and greatly attached to hereditary Honours. This was his only Foible, for he was otherwise a good Sort of a man. He, as well as Sir William, saw a growing Passion between the young Lovers, and though he had more to Combat with than Sir William had, whose Family was young compared to his, and would be honoured with an alliance so noble. But this Consideration, however, weighed nothing in the merchant's balance, he having so long used himself to laugh at family-pride, that he at length,
really

really thought it of no consequence, tho' at first it was only affection; for he would gladly have found in the Herald's Office a good account of his ancestors.

Miss V——n was extremely beautiful, and had a mind adorned with every gentle Virtue. The love she inspired was all languishment; her Eyes had a softness that was capable of disarming anger, and a sensibility that commanded love. She was near eighteen, and Mr. T——k twenty, when he first ventured to acquaint his Father with a Passion the old Gentleman had long known. Sir William made a great merit of consenting, tho' indeed he had resolved upon it long before; for he was grown as fond of Miss V——n as if she had been his own Daughter. He spoke to C——l V——n about it, who had expected the Proposal some time, but who received it with great indifference and affected Surprise. He had a son a sea-Captain, who chanced to be at home at this Time, and had taken some Pains to convince his Father, which he at length effected, that a Match in to Sir William's Family would be greatly for his Sister's Advantage. Thus as both sides were reconciled to the alliance

Allience, there was no reason assigned for delaying the Match, but the young Gentleman's age; for his prudent Father thought twenty-one quite soon enough for his son to marry, nor would he agree to the Celebration of their Nuptials till then. Captain V——n was obliged to go to his Ship, otherwise he would have been glad to have staid to see his Sister married, for fear of Accidents.

The lovers now waited in full Assurance of future Happiness, the Year was near expired, and every thing prepared for the joyful Occasion, when C——l V——n was one Night spending the Evening over a Bottle with Sir William at his House, and the young lovers were extremely happy at the C——l's and in particular, Mr. T——k, who numbered the Weeks, nay, Days, and Hours; and compared his love to that of *Jacob*, who waited fourteen years for *Rachael*, but with this difference only, that the latter thought it not too long. Such was the love he bore for Miss V——n. But I ask the Readers Pardon, for introducing something like

a Quotation from that antiquated Book
the Bible.

The old Gentleman unhappily fell upon the Subject of of Money, when Sir *William* let some Words escape him, which the C——l (always tenacious of Family honour) took as a reflection upon his poverty, and retorted by railing at the Insolence of upstarts, which Sir William immediately applied to himself; and now each being touched in the the tender Part, they grew warm, and the very Wine they had drank to the healths of the young Folks, contributed to enflame them the more. The Words *Beggar* and *Upstart*, were spoke with great Virulence, when the Admiral rising up, swore he would as soon shoot his Girl, as to let her come into such a family; and wondered at his own Infatuation, which had overcome him so far, as to consent to so unequal a Match. Unequal, indeed! cried Sir William, but the Infatuation was on my side. At these Words, the C——l went, or rather flew out of the house, when Sir William calling a Servant, ordered him to go and
fetch

his Son home that instant. The servant obeyed, and passing the C——l, arrived first at his House, where he was soon admitted to the Lovers, and delivered his Master's Command: but the Fellow's Heart was too tender to shock them with the least Intimation of the harsh Words he was ordered to make use of.

Mr. T——k was preparing to go, when they heard the C——l thundering out, Where is that Scoundrel T——k? Turn him out my house: And bursting into the Room, he cried, Pray, Sir go Home to your purse proud Father, and never dare to set foot in my House again. Astonishment struck the Lovers dumb, till Mr. T——k saw his lovely Miss V——n motionless, and in all appearance, dead, he then caught her in his Arms, crying. Oh Heavens! What is the Meaning of this? but passion had so far got the better of parental Tendernefs in the C——l, that even this Sight, moving as it was; affected him not; but with the Assistance of a Servant, he forced Mr. T——k out of Doors, while a Maid-servant was endeavouring to restore her young Lady to Life; which was no sooner done than

B

she

she fell on her Knees to her Father, and
 with Words scarce articulate, but rendered
 truly pathetick by genuine Sorrow, begged
 to know the Cause of his cruel Behaviour
 to her Lover. The C——l's Rage
 had by this time spent itself, and he began
 to be calm, when, taking her up, he kissed
 her, and declared he loved her better than
 any earthly Being; but cursed Sir William
 for not knowing the Value of such a Jewel;
 he then bid her go to Bed, and depend upon
 him for the doing all in his Power to make
 her easy. She obeyed, for implicit Obedience
 she had always practised, and so indulgent
 had her Father been to her, that she had
 always found a Pleasure in obeying him;
 and this was, perhaps the first Time she
 ever did it with Reluctance however, she
 went into her own Room, and gave up
 Enquires till the Morning. At first, she
 had no Intention to lye down the whole
 Night, she being too much agitated with
 what had passed, to wish for Rest. She
 walked about the Room in a distracted
 Condition; her dear Mr. T— was all her
 Cry, whose Name she incessantly called
 upon, nay almost wondered he did not
 come to her Relief, Some Hours she spent
 in this severely miserable Condition till Nature

ture exhausted, refused her farther Spirits, and she sunk down upon her Bed, rather stupified than sleepy; however, she was lost to Thought, and for some Time in a State of Rest, till her Door opening brought her back to Sense and Sorrow. Her Father entered her Room, and seeing her not in Bed without compassionating her Condition he flew into a violent Rage, and said if she did not tear all Remembrance of the Fellow from her Heart, he would disown and endeavour to forget her; for a Spirit so mean, deserved not the Name of V---n. He then commanded her to rise, and rung the Bell for her Maid whom she had not sufered to enter her Room since she went into it, as she could, not bear to have a Witness to her Agonies. The poor Girl came trembling at the Sound of her Master's voice, whom she little expected to find there at that late Hour, though she had indeed been often at the door to listen, as Concern for her young Lady had kept her up all Night; and even the other Servants had enjoyed little Rest, as their dear Lady's Condition, which they were all sensible of, allowed them no Peace, they having been long Witnesses of the young Lovers Fondness for

each other, before the Colonel suspected it himself; and ardently wished to see them inseparably joined. Their Concerns now equalled their Love; and when the Colonel commanded the poor Girl to put all Necessaries together for her Lady, she burst into tears, which he rebuked her for, and swore there was a Combination in his own House against him. He then led his beauteous Daughter, all pale and trembling down the Stairs, and putting her into his Chariot, which waited at the Door, and placing himself by her, the Servant drove away, without speaking a word; and no sooner were they arrived at London, then the Colonel put his Daughter into a Hackney-Coach and sending his own Chariot back, he ordered the Coachman to convey them to the first Inn, where he insisted on his Daughter's going to Bed, which indeed was necessary, she could no longer keep her Seat in the Coach, he did the same himself, for he had been up all Night contriving a Scheme to secret her from her Lover, They lay most of the Day, and the Lady, as well as her Father, got some hours Sleep: when they met again, he almost forced her to take some Refreshment, and spoke kindly to her, still reminding her
of

of his former Indulgences; and swore he loved her as well as ever, but Necessity obliged him to act as he did for the Honour of his Family. Towards Evening a Post Chaise was at the Door, into which he handed her without any Opposition for, however reluctant she was, she had ever made it a Rule never to dispute his commands. They traveled three Day without intermision, at the End of that Time they stopt at a small neat House in a Village, and were recived by a very formal elderly Lady, without any Surprize from her, for the colonel had wrote her an Account of all that had happened She was a V---n and had been handsome, & might have married to Advantage in her younger Days, but never found an Opportunity of doing it into a Family equal to her own; and highly valued herself for conquering her Inclinations, rather than yielding to it, and Contaminating the rich Blood which flowed in her Veins. She was Prudent though peevish, and rather languished then lived for her Income was so small that she was obliged to deny herself the necessary Comforts of Life, to make an appearance of Grandeur which she could ill support. Into her hand the lovely Miss V---n was committed, with
earne

earnest Intricacies, never to let her have any Opportunity of escaping or writing. The Colonel parted with his Daughter with great Reluctance; for he loved her affectionately and was often forced to call Sir William's word Beggar, to assist him in keeping up so cruel a Resentment; and that always fixed him sufficiently to act with a Spirit becoming his noble Family.

The poor young Lady bore her great Affliction in silent sorrow; her gentle Disposition prevented her Complaints from being properly vented; she seldom spoke and only desired to be alone. This her Cousin sometimes complied with, and locked her Room-door, where the young Lady found an Amusement the old one would not have allowed, had she been acquainted with it, which was writing to, her Ma d, who, when she packed her Things up, had happily the Presence of Mind to put her young Lady's Writing Box among them, foreseeing it might be of Service to her. By this one Act of hers she had relieved her Lady from many an anxious Hour, as she employed herself in writing to her Lover all the fond Epistles she had in her Mind dictated when she travelled

led with the Colonel. And though she had no Hopes of conveying them to him, yet Writing suspended her Grief for the Time she was employed in it. Her Cousen's whole Discourses tended only to inspire her with a proper Dignity of Spirit, and for which Purpose she set herself for an Example; whose behaviour, she said, had always done honour to her Family, and often thanked God she should descend to her Grave in Peace, pure and unstained by any plebian Mixture.

The Colonel had sent his Daughter all her Cloaths, and desired she might see as much Company as possible; but she paid no Attention to the large addition he had made to adorn her Person; for, as she only lived for Mr T——k; Life without him had no Charm to allure her, They would not even look at her Cloaths, but left her Cousen to satisfy her own Curiosity in examining them, there she found, carefully concealed some Paper, and in it a Letter for Miss V——n, which Family Honour obliged her to open, when she saw the Name of T——k at the Bottom, and Love! Angel Charmer Distraction Madness Ruin Death with all the Etceteras of a despairing Lover dispersed in several Parts of it

She

She had not Patience to read it, but flung it in the Fire; however, finding the Paper made her inspect more narrowly into what her Cousin did alone so often This she was not long Ignorant of, for by means of a Door, which Miss V——n had not observed, she came suddenly upon her when she was writing and was barbrous enough to take not only her Paper and her Ink, to prevent what might happen for the future, but every Bit of Paper which appeared to be stained with Ink, & flung them in discriminately into the Fire, Miss V——n viewed this Action with nearly the same concern as a tender Mother would the Amputation of a Limb from a Darling Child; she was silent for a Time and at last sunk back in her Chair, while the very prudent Lady retired, exulting in what she had done, without regarding the Condition to which she had reduced the unhappy Object of her Resentment ; tho' shortly after she sent a Servant up to see how her Cousin behaved on the Occasion The Girl no sooner entered Room than she saw the young Lady deprived of all Motion, which frightened her so that she ran down Stairs again screaming out the Lady is Dead. This was the first sound Miss

V——n

V——n heard, and sincerely ine wished it had been the last: for now she began to despair of ever seeing Mr. T——k more, and looked on her father as quite estranged from her. She never expostulated with her Jailor, but gave up all hope, the Wretch's last Resource; and the Nourishment she took being scarce sufficient to support Nature, she grew feeble and lost all Desire. The Charitable old Lady called it obstinacy, and threatened to acquaint her Father with it; but this passed unregarded by the Lady, who now lost all Sensibility, and sunk into the deepest Melancholy. Her Cousin began now to open her Eyes, and feared she had gone oo far. A Physician was accordingly sent for, but the case puzzled him, till the good Lady told him she had persisted in a foolish Passion to her own Destruction, and was therefore not to be pitied; but that her poor Father, whom she really compassionated, had done all in his power for her good, and sent her down there to prevent her dishonouring the Family. The Doctor, who very well knew Mrs. V——n's Foible, enquired into the particulars of the foolish Passion, as she was pleased to call it; and soon found (for

C

the

the Lady was very Communicative) that the C——l himself was only to blame. As he knew the young Lady could receive no Benefit from Medicinal applications, her Disorder being seated in the Mind, he lost no time, but wrote directly to the C——l; and, in the most pathetic terms opened the Lady's case, assuring him the only healing Balm must come from himself; and if not applied immediately, would be ineffectual.

The C——l began now to reflect on the part he acted, and on the unhappy condition of his Daughter, when all the tender Fondness he had before this fatal accident felt for her, revived; and when he viewed her in the distressful Condition, the Doctor had represented, he was little better than distracted. His first Determination was to go directly to Sir William and solicit his pardon: But here his pride again intervened, and he had a severe Struggle with himself, till the sight of a Gentleman, who was a Friend of Sir William's, suggested a Medium, to whom he applied and desired him that he would by some means or other, sound the old Gentleman, and find what his thoughts
wer

were with regard to the Lovers. He urged the Necessity of Dispatch, by intimating the Danger his Daughter was in. The Gentleman replied that he very well knew Sir William would rejoice at a reconciliation; for that his Son was in scarce a better Condition than Miss V—n.

As this Gentleman had long viewed the Lovers with Pleasure, he had felt some concern at their Separation, and and heartily blamed the C——l, and thought him more inexcusable than Sir William, as undoubtedly he must feel more from the want of fortune than Sir William possibly could from that of noble Ancestors, since this Defect daily produced Inconveniences to the C——l; whereas Sir William never suffered any Uneasiness, while he was possessed of the more substantial part of Nobility.

Sir William receiv'd the C——l's Submission with great Satisfaction; for indeed he would have applied for a reconciliation himself, immediately after the Quarrel had happened upon seeing the Distracted Condition of his Son; but had no hopes of ever gaining the C——l's Consent, as he daily heard how much he was exasperated

rated against his whole Family ; for so great was that Gentleman's Repentment, that, in all Companies, and all places, his chief discourse was leveled at Sir William, and he severely accused himself for his Weakness, in ever listening to proposals from so obscure a Family, whose very name, he said, betrayed their Original, and often wished to follow his Girl to her Grave, rather than hear her called Mrs. T——k. But now when he really apprehended her Death, it awaked his paternal Love, and threw him into the severest Agonies ; and, when he saw Sir William come with his Friend, he hastened to meet him, and received him as his good Angel, who alone could restore peace to his distracted Mind. There wanted not much to bring about a Reconciliation between them, as each had the life of a darling Child at Stake ; and it was concluded to set out together immediately. They accordingly lost no time, a Post-Chaise and Horses were instantly provided, and they resolved if the Lady's health would permit, to celebrate the Nuptials of the young couple in the Country. So sudden a Transition from the Extremity of Grief to that of Joy was very near rendering the young Gentleman

tleman incapable of performing the Journey; and though it was intended he should ride his own Horse, they now found it necessary to put him into a Post-Chaise.

It may easily be imagined they lost no time on the Road; and, being arrived at their Journeys End, they found the Physician in the House, to whom Mr. T—k eagerly applied for Information concerning the young Lady's Health, as did the C——l also, with an equal Impatience; but the Gentleman was in no haste to answer him. He shook his Head, and desired them to sit down, it being necessary he said, to consult in what manner the Lady should be addressed, assuring them her extreme Weakness would allow of no sudden Joy. He would by no means consent, notwithstanding the young Gentleman's Impatience, that he should see her, or that she should even suspect his being in the House. As the affection to a Parent, added he, however strong, is of a calmer Nature than the Passion of a Lover, the C——l must first see her and prepare her by degrees for the greater Joy that is to follow. But then again he shook his Head, and, looking greatly concerned, told them he feared it was
too

too late, to prevent the unhappy Catastrophe he apprehended.

The C——l had all this time taken no Manner of Notice of his Cousin, tho' she had often reminded him of her great Care and Concern for his Daughter. The Physician, had in his Letter, hinted the severe Usage she had received, and assigned that for one Cause of her present suffering: This the C——l blamed her for, though it was the very thing he had himself enjoined her to do.

The Doctor was unwilling to acquaint the Gentlemen with the worst of Miss V——n's Case for indeed Grief had touched her Brain, and she was seized with that Disorder which is called melancholy Madness; she had not spoke for three Days, and was in such a low State of Body, occasioned by her obstinately refusing all Sustainance, that certain Death he knew, must be the consequence, unless a Change almost miraculous, immediately ensued. This, after some previous Hints, the Doctor ventured to tell the Gentleman, but thought it requisite to prevent a greater Shock from the sight
of

of her, as he despaired of her ever being in a State to receive them as he found they expected. Her Father had no longer any Patience, he insisted upon going to her that Moment, and indeed, flew into her Room; where she lay a Spectacle truly pitiable; her charming Eyes were open, but they had neither Sweetness nor meaning in them: They were large and she was extremely thin, which contributed to a Ghastliness almost frightful.

The C——l started back at the Sight and could scarce support himself. He was dumb, for Excess of Grief denied him Utterance; but, after gazing wildly at her for some time, he cried out, "Is this my lovely Girl! is this my Lucy!" A Torrent of Tears gushed from his Eyes, although unused to the "*melting mood*." Just at that instance came in Mr. T——k, whose Father could withhold him no longer; and therefore, dreading the Consequence such a meeting, it is hard to say which suffered most, the parent or the Lover; but grief operated in quite a different Manner on the young Gentleman. The C——l's was silent sorrow; but the Lover grew frantic, he saw the Delight of

of his enraptured Soul past all Sence of Joy or Sorrow, incapable of hearing the fond endearing Words he treasured up for her at their Meeting how great then must be the disappointment to him, who but a little before entered the House full of joyful Expectations, thus to meet a sight more dreadful than Death itself ! He stamped about the Room, tore his Hair from his Head, and his Clothes from his Back ; and seeing a Pen-knife lie in a Window, he rancagerly and caught it up, while his distressed Father, who watched his actions, had just Time enough to prevent his rash design. The kind Doctor assisted and they carried him into another Room, where, keeping every means of hurting himself from him, they suffered him to vent his Sorrow without interruption.

The Doctor then persuaded the C——l to leave the Room, which he was scarce able to do ; for the sight had almost rendered his Legs useless. The officious old Lady now began to comfort him, at which he lost all patience, and told her it was Impertinence to name Comfort to him, while his only Joy in Life lay expiring ; and added some sharp expressions about her

her Usage, which she had the Prudence to bear without answering.

Some Hours after, the Doctor, (for he would not leave them acquainted the C——l, that the young Lady was more composed than usual, and seemed to be asleep, She was so, and continued in a sweet Repose a long Time. This gave the most agreeable Hopes; and the more so, when she waked quite sensible, knew her Father, and lifted her Hands and Eyes to obtain his Blessing, which he gave her perhaps with more Fervency than he had ever before offered up his vows to Heaven. She was too Weak to make her Voice to be heard; but plainly shewed the Satisfaction she felt at the sight of her Father. Her Lover soon heard the transporting News, and came in Raptures; but the Doctor kept him back, till the C——l had made her sensible he was there. She turned her Eyes round the Room, and he endeavoured to raise her Head, but could not lift it off the Pillow, her Nurse then raised her, and the youth approached trembling with Hope and Fear. She had the Power to reach her hand towards him, which her Father joined to

D

his;

his; a faint Red overcame the deadly Paleness of her Face; she smiled, and her Eyes declared the Satisfaction she received from this Action of her Father's. Her Lover kissed her Hand, all damp with Death's cold Sweats; for, alas! this lucid interval was only such as often precedes the last moment of all Deliriums; she kept her Eyes, while they had power to move, between her Father and Lover; at last she fixed them on the latter; and sunk gently down in Death.

Thus died the lovely Miss V——n, whose Soul was formed to diffuse Happiness; and her Person to inspire Love. She fell a Sacrifice to the Vainest of all Vanities, family Pride. So much has been said already to the affliction of the two unhappy Gentlemen, that in Compassion to the humane Reader, we shall close this affecting Scene with the Words of Mr. T——k.

When he saw his Delight lie breathless before him, he was urged to part with her Hand, which he had not quitted since his Father joined them. Before he did so, he lifted up his Eyes; and, with trembling

trembling Lips and faltering Tongue, cried, Oh stay, thou gentle, dear departed Spirit! stay, and hear the sacred Vow I make. Be my eternity wretched as is this present Moment, if ever this Hand, which now must part with thine, be joined in Union with any other Woman.

The Company now left the Room. Sir William spent the Day with his Son, the Doctor, and a good Clergyman who had been called in with the C——l, and in sometimes visiting the other Gentlemen. The old Lady, who valued herself for the Management of the young one, was very silent when she saw the Effects of her mistaken Prudence. The Remains of the unhappy Lady were deposited with her Ancestors, and nothing occurred while they stayed in the Country, but what may easily be imagined, except one Incident not to be omitted.

Mrs. V——n, as has been observed threw all the young Lady's Letters and Papers into the Fire, but was too much agitated with the discovery to think of staying till they were burned. A Servant Maid who saw her, snatched them from

the Flames when only a very small part was consumed: She kept them carefully, and happening to be in Love, and her Lover at Sea, she read them with great Pleasure, easily adapting them to her own Situation; but chanced one Day, when she had been perusing them to drop a bit of Paper in Mr. T——k's Room, which as he was walking his melancholy Rounds (which he often did for Hours together) he saw; he stopped, and took it up, without knowing what he did, and was just going to throw it out of the Window, when he luckily saw the Hand Writing of his Dear Lucy, (for so he now called her though respect, while Living, had confined him to the formal appellation of Miss) he first applied to his Lips and then read in Extacy,

O let me go with thee, and going prove,
By what I will endure, how much I love!

And, in other Place, and scarce legible,
he found,

Speed the soft Intercourse of Soul to
Soul,
And waft a Sight from Indus to the Pole

Few things in Life could now give him greater Pleasure ; and that very Maid coming to call him to Dinner, he asked her eagerly if she knew how the paper came into his Room ; she Blushed, and betrayed a Consciouſness, which he well understood ; he pulled his Purſe out of his Pocket, and pouring out about a dozen Guineas, he ſaid. take them all for ſuch another Fragment.

The Money tempted her, and though ſhe was very fond of Miſs V——n's Letters, ſhe liked the Money better, but could not ſtay ; only told him, in the Afternoon ſhe would bring him a great many more ſuch, and Letters too, if he would not tell her Miſtreſs, who thought ſhe had burned them ; he promiſed Secrecy, and Bleſſing her, went down to Dinner : There was a viſible Alteration in his Countenance, which Sir William, who obſerved him nicely, ſoon ſaw, and received great Satisfaction from. The Company were all more chearful than uſual ; even the C——l ſeemed for ſome Moments, to have forgot his loſs ; but Mr. T——k had not forgot his Appointment. The young Woman only ſecreted
one

one of the Letters, to copy one to her Lover; he received them as a Blessing from Heaven; nothing but his Dear Miss V——n herself could have given him more pleasure: In them, he read the genuine thoughts of her Soul; many of which, had she been living, She would have blushed to own: He found Tautology in Abundance, for in every Letter, there was,

My Life, my Soul, my All that Heaven
can give :

Death's Life with thee, without the Death
to live.

With Abundance of tender Expressions, which either her own Heart suggested, or she recollected from what she had read; for since her acquaintance with Mr. T——k, even before her Lover, she grew fond of reading what treated of Love, either in Poetry or Prose, and had treasured up a vast number of tender Sentiments; all which he found here without order to Restraint: From this Time, there was a visible Alteration in his Behaviour, and his Father began to conceive
Hopes

Hopes he before despaired of, and they soon after left the Country.

The discreet old Lady did not meet with all the returns of Gratitude she expected, and therefore laid her case open to the Physician and Divine, who both, upon her own Recital, without hearing the other Side, condemned her, and never after could appear friendly to her. Add to this the Coldness of the C——, joined to her own Reflections, and I believe the Reader will think her in a very unhappy Situation, though she continually affected a State of Serenity, as well to hide the Chagrin of her Soul, as to give a Sanction to her protestations against Marriage and Love.

The Gentlemen after a melancholy Journey. came to London.

F I N I S.

